

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action identified above, the Examiner:

- a) allowed claims 1 and 3-11;
- b) indicated that objected to claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form; and
- c) rejected claims 12 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 03-013511.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 3-11, and 13.

In the present Amendment After Final, Applicant proposes to cancel claim 13 and amend claim 12 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 13. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3-12, and 14-19 will be pending in the above-identified application, of which claims 1, 3-12, and 14-17 will be under examination.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 12 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 03-013511. However, in order to advance prosecution of this application, Applicant has canceled objected-to claim 13, and has amended claim 12 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 13. In light of this Amendment, claim 12 is now allowable, and dependent claims 14-17 are allowable at least due to their dependence from claim 12. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 12 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn.

This Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration or search. Since the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is the only outstanding


issue in this case, this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance. Therefore, entry of this Amendment After Final and a timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 28, 2007

By: 
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